

REMARKS

The foregoing Amendment and the following Remarks are submitted in response to the Final Office Action issued on June 1, 2006 in connection with the above-identified patent application and further in response to the Advisory Action issued on August 15, 2006 and along with a Request for Continued Examination, and are being filed within the three-month shortened statutory period set for a response by the Final Office Action.

Claims 1-7, 11-22, and 26-30 remain pending in the present application as amended. Claims 1 and 16 have been amended to further recite the subject matter of the present invention. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added to the application by the Amendment.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims, consistent with the following remarks.

Preliminarily, Applicants wish to thank the Examiner and Primary Examiner Doug Hutton for the courtesy extended in conducting a telephonic interview with the undersigned on September 12, 2006. At the interview, the undersigned emphasized the linking nature of the content-control statement as coupling the edit form with the content such that the content is displayed according to controls of the edit form as specified by the content-control statement. In addition, the undersigned emphasized and the Examiners came to appreciate that the edit form with such controls is best understood as a toolbox of options available for use in displaying the items of the content, and the content-control statement specifies which option / control of the toolbox / edit form is to be employed to display each item of the content.

All that said, the Examiner has finally rejected the claims under 35 USC § 103 as being obvious over Huang (U.S. Patent Application No. 2001/0032218) in view of Kutay et al. (U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0026461). Applicants respectfully traverse the § 103 rejection insofar as it may be applied to the claims as amended.

Independent claim 1 as amended recites a computing system that has an editing process operating thereon. The editing process receives a selection of a piece of content, where the content includes at least one item therein. Each such item specifies a pre-defined portion of the content. The process also receives a selection of an edit form that

includes at least one control therein, where each control is available for receiving an item of the content and for specifying attributes relating to displaying the received item in a page that is to be served to a requester thereof.

The process further receives a selection of a content-control statement that specifies for each of at least some items of the content a control from the edit form to be employed to display the item in the page and thereby binds the content to the edit form. The process finally either receives a selection of a layout statement or allows an editor to create the layout statement, where the layout statement specifies each item of the content that is to appear in the page, including a layout order of such specified item within the page and any attributes to be applied to such item. Significantly, claim 1 as amended recited that the content, the edit form, the content-control statement, and the layout statement are all separate documents.

The editor edits the layout statement to edit how the content is to appear in the page, and also edits displaying of the content to produce edited content based on the received content, the received edit form, and the received content-control statement and not on the layout statement. As edited, the edited content includes only those items of the content and only those controls of the edit form as specified by the content-control statement.

The edited layout statement and edited content are output. Accordingly, a transforming process produces the page based on the edited content, the layout information, and a pre-selected rendering format. Significantly, the editing process outputs the edited content as an intermediate form of the content including the items of the content and the controls of the edit form that are referenced by the content-control statement, the editing process receives the content without any indicia that binds such content to any particular edit form, and the editing process receives the edit form without any indicia that binds such edit form to any particular content.

As was previously pointed out, the background section of the present application notes that content may be published in electronic form by applying the content to an edit form to produce a page of information including the content, and then storing the page on an appropriate server from which such page with such content can be requested. The edit form typically is constructed to have predefined fields or ‘controls’, where each control is to contain at least a portion of the content and/or additional information relating to the content.

For example, if the server is run by or on behalf of a newspaper publisher for the purpose of serving newspaper articles, a newspaper editor may publish a newspaper article to the network by applying the contents of the article and the additional information to an edit form to produce the article in a format defined by the edit form.

The edit form employed to publish the newspaper article may for example include one or more fields for entering an article title and/or subtitle, one or more fields for entering an article summary, one or more fields for entering the text of the article, one or more fields for entering pictures to accompany the text, one or more fields for entering multimedia content to accompany the text, one or more fields for entering a web link at which related information may be found, one or more fields for entering feedback information, one or more fields for entering author information, and the like. As may be appreciated, each such field in the edit form in general is for receiving some sort of information that is to be displayed or otherwise presented to a client requesting the article from the server.

Thus, the aforementioned newspaper editor may for example copy the content into some of the fields, such as the title and text fields, add additional text content to some of the fields, such as the summary, author, and feedback fields, add additional content to some of the fields, such as the picture and multimedia fields, and the like. As may also be appreciated, in the edit form, each field typically includes therein definitional attributes, including location information for locating the field on the published article as served to a requesting client, font and font size information for specifying a font and font size if the field is textual, color information for specifying a color if necessary or advisable, style information for specifying a style, and/or the like as necessary.

However, in the prior art, each edit form was custom in nature in that the edit form was designed and developed to solve a very specific need. Accordingly, and as a result, each edit form was static in nature in that most if not all of the definitional attributes of the fields therein are fixed and non-variable. As should be evident, then, such a static edit form does not provide the ability to alter the fields defined therein to provide additional functionality or to facilitate developing additional edit forms in a flexible and efficient manner. Accordingly, with the present invention, each edit form is more flexible in nature and is not as closely tied to any particular type of piece of edited content. In particular, in the

present invention, a particular edit form may be employed with multiple types of edited content by specifying an appropriate tying content-control statement, and the controls in the edited form may be employed in a more flexible manner by specifying and/or generating an appropriate layout statement.

That is, in the present invention, the edit form is no longer tied to any particular piece of content, and the piece of content is no longer tied to any particular edit form. Instead, a piece of content may be used with any of several edit forms and an edit form may be used with any of several pieces of content, as long as any edit form that is to be employed with any piece of content is tied to the content by way of an appropriate content-control statement that specifies for at least some items of the content a control from the edit form to be employed to display the item in the page.

In effect, then, the present invention decouples the edit form from the content. By doing so, and as was pointed out in the specification of the present application, the edit form in particular can be much more dynamic in nature in that such edit form need only specify the controls, and not any particular order of controls, any specific number of controls, which control is to be employed for a particular item of content, etc. Instead, such edit form can be applied to multiple different pieces of content, where each piece of content is specified in relation to the edit form by way of a content-control statement that implicitly binds the content to the edit form.

As was previously pointed out, the Huang reference discloses, in general terms, using identifiers in user-defined document type definitions to convert unstructured documents to structured documents. The identifiers in user-defined document type definitions are used to associate selected objects or group objects in the unstructured documents so that association information of the selected objects or group objects can facilitate the generation of files in a markup language suitable for presentations on various media.

In particular, in the Huang reference, a structured document (i.e., a piece of content) is presented in different layouts according to different style sheets (i.e., edit forms) (paragraph 46), and according a definition file and a metafile that includes structure for document elements that are to be displayed (paragraph 12). However, and significantly, the Huang style sheets are more akin to the edit forms of the prior art in that a different layout of the content can only be achieved with a different style sheet (paragraph 46). That is, the

Huang style sheets themselves define the layouts, and each style sheet is not flexible to produce a different layout unless the style sheet is itself edited, as the Examiner points out in the Response to Arguments section of the Office Action at page 14. Thus, the Huang reference actually points away from and therefore does not teach the present invention, in which a single edit form can be employed to produce different layouts without editing the edit form, based on appropriate selection of different content-control statements and layout statements.

The Kutay reference discloses, in general terms, a system and method for creating a source document and presenting the source document to a user in a target format. A construction user interface area is presented to enable a user to create the source document in a source format defined by a source document type definition. A conversion user interface area is then presented to enable the user to convert the source document from the source format to the target format selected by the user.

However, and significantly, neither the Huang reference nor the Kutay reference disclose, suggests, or even appreciates that by employing content, a separate edit form, a separate content-control statement, and a separate layout statement, edited content may be published to a page in a more flexible manner, as is recited in the claims of the present application as amended. In particular, such references as combined collectively fail to appreciate that by employing a content-control statement and a dynamic edit form with a plurality of controls, items of edited content can be associated with particular ones of the controls of the edit form by way of the content-control statement such that the edit form is not itself tied to the content, and also collectively fail to appreciate that by employing a layout statement with such dynamic edit form, particular attributes of the controls of the edit form may be flexibly defined, as is the case with the invention recited by the claims of the present application.

Most notably, and as the Examiner has conceded, each Huang reference style sheet produces only a single layout of the corresponding content and must be edited to achieve a different layout. Thus, such Huang reference fails to appreciate that such style sheet should or even could be employed to produce different layouts if the style sheet was used in connection with a separate content-control statement and a separate layout statement that respectively sets forth which elements of the style sheet are to be employed to render

items of the content, and how to layout such items, all as is required by the claims of the present application. Thus, the Huang reference style sheets although akin to the edit form recited in the claims are not in fact dynamic such that each such style sheet can be employed to achieve multiple different layouts, as is required by the claims of the present application.

Put simply, the Huang style sheet is not dynamic in that such style sheet includes a collection of controls or fields that may be employed to display corresponding content, as is required by the claims of the present application. Thus, no content-control statement is required, as with the invention of the present application, to specify the edit form to be used for a piece of content and which of the available controls of the edit form are to be used for each item of the content.

In the Huang system, a single piece of content is displayed in multiple different layouts according to multiple corresponding style sheets. In contrast, in the present invention as recited in the claims, a single edit form is employed to achieve the multiple different layouts, as long as, for each different layout, the edit form is tied to the content by an appropriate content-control statement and as long as, for each different layout, an appropriate layout statement is employed.

Thus, for all of the aforementioned reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the Huang reference does not appreciate that by separating layout and content-control information from a style sheet / edit form, a single edit form may be employed for multiple different layouts. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the Huang and Kutay references do not disclose or even suggest the use of a single edit form from which multiple layouts may be obtained in the manner of the present invention.

At any rate, Applicants also respectfully submit that the Huang reference and the Kutay references both fail to disclose or even suggest that content should or could be edited to produce edited content based on received content, a received edit form, and a received content-control statement and not on a layout statement such that the edited content includes only those items of the content and only those controls of the edit form as specified by the content-control statement, as is required by the claims of the present application. Further, Applicants also respectfully submit that neither the Huang reference nor the Kutay reference discloses or even suggests that the editing process outputs the edited content as an intermediate form, that the editing process receives the content without any indicia that binds

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such content to any particular edit form, and that the editing process receives the edit form without any indicia that binds such edit form to any particular content, all as is required by the claims of the present application.

Accordingly, and for all of the aforementioned reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the Huang and Kutay references as combined cannot be applied to make obvious claims 1-7, 11-22, and 26-30. Thus, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 103 rejection insofar as it may be applied to such claims.

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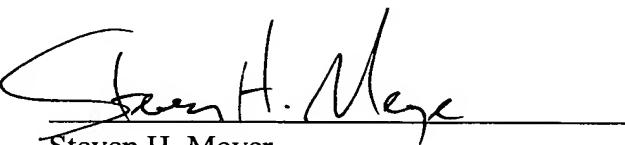
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In view of the foregoing discussion, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application, including claims 1-7, 11-22, and 26-30, is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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